

offenses, 25% of those who have ever needed treatment have never received it, and 72% of those with a current need for treatment are not getting it.

- Of adult arrestees who have ever received AOD treatment, 28% are now receiving treatment, more in non-urban sites, among older arrestees, among males, and among those arrested for drug-related offenses.

## **Tennessee's Juvenile SANTA Arrestee Study**

### **Background**

- The association between substance abuse and crime is well-documented from national data sets and for adults, but this is the first opportunity Tennessee has had to portray the relationship for juveniles as well.
- Juveniles (under 18) comprise 25% of the State's population and 19% of arrestees in Tennessee in 1995-1996. Determining the need for AOD treatment among juvenile arrestees is the goal of this study.
- Comparing Juvenile SANTA study results to results from the Tennessee Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs High School Survey of 1995/1997, Tennessee juvenile SANTA arrestees are more likely to be male, younger, living in single parent households, with higher prevalence of alcohol and other drug use than high school students.

### **Characteristics of the Juvenile SANTA Arrestee Sample**

#### Demographic Characteristics

- The arrestees in Tennessee's juvenile SANTA study are predominantly male (just over three-fifths are male) and non-white (again, just over three-fifths are non-white).
  - In Memphis, the predominance of males is slightly less than for the sample as a whole, while in the Nashville, and Putnam County sites, the predominance of males is slightly greater.
  - In Memphis, only about one-fifth of arrestees are white. In Nashville, two-fifths are white, and in Knoxville/Knox County, nearly three out of every five juvenile arrestees are white. In one non-urban site in Upper Cumberland Tennessee (Putnam County), nearly nine out of ten SANTA juveniles are white.